

Aparajita Das

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Biography

Aparajita Das is a Consultant at Vega Economics specializing in applied microeconomics, econometrics, and model development. Dr. Das has significant experience in working with a diverse range of datasets, including large financial datasets and complex, often messy, public sources, and in translating quantitative analysis into useful insights for non-technical audiences. At Vega, Dr. Das plays an active role in both the quantitative and qualitative aspects of producing compelling reports grounded in economic logic.

In recent case experience, Dr. Das has worked on a series of cases related to RMBS servicing, on which she worked on developing economic rebuttals to support the client's legal theory, data analysis, and damages modelling.

Dr. Das holds a bachelor's degree in Economics from Princeton University, a master's degree in Social Science from the University of Chicago, and a Ph.D. in Economics from the Pontifical Catholic University of Rio de Janeiro. She speaks English, Bengali, Hindi, Portuguese, and Spanish.

Education

Ph.D. Economics, PUC-Rio

M.A. Social Science, University of Chicago

B.A. Economics, Honors, Princeton University

Professional Experience

Vega Economics, Consultant, Jan. 2020-present; Sr. Associate, Apr. 2019-Dec.2019

Observer Research Foundation, Quantitative Researcher, 2017

University of Chicago, Research Coordinator for Brazil (NSF-funded project), 2014

National Opinion Research Center, Graduate Research Assistant, 2012-2013

Princeton University, Research Assistant, 2011-2012

Research Papers

Institutions and Incentives: The Long-run Impacts of Colonial Land Revenue Systems in India
Study of the impact of institutions on long-run growth, utilizing an original historical dataset.
Available at: econ.puc-rio.br/uploads/adm/trabalhos/files/1412613_2018_Competo.pdf

The Melting Pot Effect: The Impact of Religious and Linguistic Diversity on Growth and Poverty
Investigation of the relationship between various dimensions of cultural diversity and growth in

Indian districts using an instrumental variables strategy. Available at: <econ.puc-rio.br/uploads/adm/trabalhos/files/1412613_2018_Competo.pdf>

Goddesses and Growth: The Formation of Cultural Values and their Impact on Development
Empirical work studying the formation of cultural values as a channel through which development outcomes may be impacted by initial conditions. Available at: <econ.puc-rio.br/uploads/adm/trabalhos/files/1412613_2018_Competo.pdf>

A Fine Balance: India's Voting Record at the UNGA
Study of the evolution of India's foreign policy stance using an index based on historical voting patterns of member states at the United Nations General Assembly. Available at: <orfonline.org/research/fine-balance-india-voting-record-unga>

Do Religion and Caste Matter: The Case of Indian Land Reform
Empirical paper investigating the role of demographic composition in the success of redistributive land reform in Indian districts.

Network Effects of the Wassenaar Arrangement on the Arms Trade Network
Quantitative analysis of the impact of multilateral agreements on patterns of trade in the global arms network.

Selected Honors

Appointed to Indian Revenue Service (Ranked top 0.07% in Indian Civil Services Merit List), 2017

Appointed to Indian Defense Accounts Service (Ranked top 0.01% in Indian Civil Services Merit List), 2016

Doctoral Scholarship from Ministry of Education, Brazil, 2014-2018

Division of Social Sciences Fellowship, University of Chicago, 2012-2013

Paul E. Sigmund Scholars Award, Princeton University, 2010